



8013-1074

PATENTS

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Hidemitsu AOKI et al.

Confirmation No. 6696

Serial No. 09/715,000

Group 2811

Filed November 20, 2000

IMPROVED SEMICONDUCTOR WAFER SURFACE AND METHOD OF TREATING  
SEMICONDUCTOR WAFER SURFACEINFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In compliance with Rules 1.97 and 1.98, and in fulfillment of the duty of disclosure under Rule 1.56, the accompanying documents, copies of which are attached to this statement, are made of record on the enclosed sheet.

A concise explanation of the relevance of these items is that these references were cited by the Japanese Patent Office in the corresponding Japanese Application Serial No. 11-329324, filed November 19, 1999. A copy of the Japanese Official Action in which they were cited is attached hereto, with what is believed to be the pertinent portion enclosed in a wavy line. An English translation of the enclosed portion is also attached hereto.

Under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97(e), the undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in a

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counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

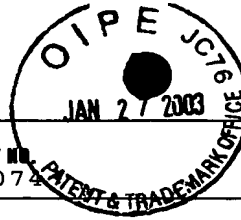
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January 27, 2003

FORM PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEATTY. DOCKET NO.  
8013-1074SERIAL NO.  
09/715,000**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**  
(Use several sheets if necessary)

37 CFR 1.98(b)

APPLICANT  
Hidemitsu AOKI et al.FILING DATE  
November 20, 2000GROUP  
2811**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL		PATENT NUMBER	ISSUE DATE	PATENTEE	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA						
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						

**FOREIGN PATENT OR PUBLISHED FOREIGN PATENT APPLICATION**

		DOCUMENT NO.	PUBL. DATE	COUNTRY OR PATENT OFFICE	CLASS	SUB CLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
	AI	A 11-40526	02/99	JP			
	AJ	A 2000-40679	02/00	JP			
	AK	A 9-251969	09/97	JP			
	AL	A 5-315331	11/93	JP			
	AM	A 10-72594	03/98	JP			
	AN						
	AO						
	AP						
	AQ						

**OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Relevant Pages, Place of Publication)**

	AT	
	AU	
	AV	
	AX	
	AY	

**EXAMINER****DATE CONSIDERED****EXAMINER: Initial citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered.  
Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.**